Banbury Cake

FEBRUARY 11, 2016 banburycake.co.uk 01295 256111

Town gets initial device to help people having cardiac arrest

Either end Rita Kimberger and Ian Wilson, of Banbury Lions Club, with Mayor Tony Mepham and Rhys Bull of Marks & Spencer

FIRST IN A LINE OF LIFESAVERS

Kieran Davey
kdavey@nqo.com

BANBURY'S town centre could have up to four public access defibrillators within the next few years, the *Banbury Cake* can reveal.

The news comes after the first lifesaving device was unveiled on the side of Marks & Spencer in Market Place on Friday last week.

Charity Banbury Lions Club has spent 18 months raising £2,000 for the machine, which will be used to help people who suffer a cardiac arrest.

Club chairman Ian Wilson said: "We are all really pleased that the defibrillator has finally gone in.

"We'd like to thank everyone in Banbury who made donations and supported all of our fundraising ventures.

"We believe that people should never be more than ten minutes from a defibrillator, and are keen to work with any businesses or members of the public who can help us install more.

"Having a range of these devices across the town centre can only be a good thing. Hopefully they will never be used but they will be there if you need one."

Mr Wilson added the town centre's second defibrillator, which is being installed in partnership with Banbury-based solicitors Spratt Endicott, should be in operation by the summer, with up to two more to follow.

The second device is planned for the Banbury Cross area.

Public access defibrillators are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, are not restricted by being inside a shop or business, and are available for any member of the public to use.

According to South Central Ambulance Service this is the tenth defibrillator in Banbury.

There are defibrillators inside Banbury Police Station, Woodgreen Leisure Centre in Woodgreen Avenue, and at Windrush Surgery in West Bar Street.

But none of these are available 24 hours a day for members of the public to use.

Banbury mayor Tony Mepham said: "It's brilliant that the Lions Club has worked so hard to collect money for the defibrillator."

To use the system, people can call the 999 emergency number and will be directed to their nearest defibrillator.

Each box has an entry code, which will be given by the ambulance call handlers.

The box will have a video screen, which when activated will show the user how to operate the equipment safely.

National defibrillator charity Community Heartbeat Trust, which has overseen the project, will be holding an open evening in the next few weeks to give people advice on using the device.

Rhys Bull, store manager at Marks & Spencer, said: "Our position at the heart of Banbury's town centre makes our store the ideal location to install a public access defibrillator."

Printed and published by Newsquest Oxfordshire, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0EJ,
Tel: 01865 425362. Newspaper Sales Department 01865 425282. Direct Delivery 0800 028 4592.

Wine and Dine your Valentine by candlelight

Authentic Turkish and Greek Cuisine, English and Vegetarian options are available

STILL BOOKING FOR VALENTINES!!!!!!!!

TARSUS RESTAURANT AND HOTEL

Daventry Road (A425)
Southam,
Warwickshire,
CV47 1NW.

Tel: (01926) 813585

www.tarsusrestaurant.co.uk

Visit our showroom, or call to book a free home consultation, and we'll show you how easy it is to **transform your kitchen** with our granite, quartz, recycled glass and porcelain worktops.

Banbury Showroom: 01295 515 880
Unit 8, Swan Industrial Estate, Gatteridge Street, Banbury, Oxfordshire OX16 5DH
Bicester Showroom: 01869 868 096
Bicester Avenue, Oxford Rd, Bicester, Oxfordshire OX25 2NY
Visit **granitetransformations.co.uk** for more information

Call now
01295 515 880

GRANITE transformations
kitchen & bathroom makeovers

BanburyCake

banburycake.co.uk/cars

‘Lifeline’ service loses vital funds

‘Phone Friends’ scheme offers point of contact to isolated elderly residents

Hannah Somerville
hsomerville@nqo.com

AN “INVALUABLE” Phone Friends scheme for the elderly is under threat after the county council pulled its funding.

The volunteer-led service, run by Age UK Oxfordshire, offers a lifeline to some of the 35,000 older people who say they often or always feel lonely.

It was the focus of a Christmas campaign in our sister paper, the *Oxford Mail*, which raised £2,335 for phone calls and found 30 potential volunteers in December.

But that could be under threat after Oxfordshire County Council decided to stop the £33,000 it gives to the £35,000-a-year running costs, with the cash ending on March 31.

Age UK Oxfordshire chief executive Paul Cann said: “We had it confirmed about a week ago. It was the only funding we had for it.

“The key message is that we are determined to conserve Phone Friends on a lower cost, but must be responsible about managing it.

“The donors we had during the campaign have inspired us to work even harder to keep the service going; the money that was raised makes a start.”

Paula Donaldson, co-ordinator of Phone Friends Oxfordshire

Over the next few months the charity will review its current premises in Banbury and will only apply for funding or tender in partnership with other charities.

The news has come as a shock to people who use the service, many of whom count it as one of their key points of contact to the world.

Former Unipart worker Roy Croucher, 86, who fronted the *Oxford Mail*’s campaign, said: “I can’t understand these cuts.

“In their mind older people are just a nuisance. I can’t see how they can hit the poor and the elderly like this.”

He added: “I have my phone calls on Monday and Saturday and I’m still finding them helpful.”

Age UK Oxfordshire and Contact the Elderly volunteer Shazmin Sivewright, who cares for fellow user Hazel Plested in Headington, said: “Phone Friends is a lifeline to people who are on their own.

“To Hazel it’s invaluable. She speaks to an advisor from Banbury and you can’t put a price on having someone to talk to.”

Phone Friends co-ordinator Paula Donaldson said: “It will probably continue in a different guise. We have had volunteers saying that if the service closes they will still do the calls anyway.”

Oxfordshire County Council spokesman Chris Birdsall said the local authority would run its own service, in place from April 1.

He said: “It will provide information for older people, adults with learning disabilities, adults with mental health problems, adults with physical and sensory impairments, adult and young carers, young people aged 16+ and families with young children (particularly disabled children).

“The council’s £69m savings begin in the 2016-17 financial year.”

Sue Smilie, of Restore’s Orchard Recovery Group, making a Valentine’s heart

Mental health volunteers receive £20k

VOLUNTEERS at mental health charity Restore celebrated after receiving £20,000 in donations over the festive period.

Money was raised through sales of the Oxfordshire charity’s Christmas cards and gifts, carol singing organised by the Oxford Spires Rotary club, and donations by other local groups.

Sue Smilie, a member of Restore’s Orchard Recovery Group in Banbury, said: “By people fundraising, it helps to bring more awareness to mental health issues.

“The money also gives us more choice in what activities we do – it funds more projects.

“It also means we can make more things to sell in our shop, which can then raise even more money.”

The group, based in Manzil Way, Oxford, supports people with severe mental health problems to recover and get work.

They offer activities such as gardening, craft, woodwork and the chance to work in the charity’s shops and cafes, where they sell the products they grow and make.

TRADE SECRET
OUTLET FURNITURE WAREHOUSE

WHAT WE DO IS SIMPLE:
We buy cancelled furniture orders, overruns and returned products from the most respected high street stores such as JOHN LEWIS, BHS & other leading brands and sell them at deeply discounted prices

FLASH SALE - IN - STORE ONLY
SAVE 10% ON EVERYTHING IN-STORE
THE MORE YOU SPEND, THE MORE YOU SAVE

It happens every year - floods of cancelled Christmas orders are sent our way now the sales floor is packed with great high street brands including JOHN LEWIS, BHS and many more.
We have to keep the stock moving through so now is the right time to bag a true bargain!

10% DISCOUNT IF YOU SPEND UP TO £1100
15% DISCOUNT IF YOU SPEND BETWEEN £1101 - £2200
20% DISCOUNT ON ALL PURCHASE OVER £2200
*current clearance items are not included in the special discount deal this weekend.

STOCK IS CONSTANTLY CHANGING
NEW DELIVERIES NEARLY EVERY WEEK

IMMEDIATE AVAILABILITY
SEE IT, LIKE IT, BUY IT, TAKE IT AWAY
(or we can arrange delivery)

Tel. 01295 810110
Mon-Fri 9am–5pm; Sat 10am–5pm; Sun 10am–4pm

www.trade-secret.co.uk

Unit 6 Twyford Mill, Adderbury, Nr Banbury OX17 3SX.
Just minutes from junction 11 off the M40 -
AMPLE FREE PARKING

Protesters turn out over children's centres plans

Petition to save a 'fantastic' service receives more than 1,000 signatures ahead of next week's budget meeting

Sophie Mogridge
smogridge@nqo.com

A PETITION to save the county's children's centres has topped 1,000 signatures ahead of next Tuesday's budget vote.

Despite the downpour across the county on Saturday, 600 people turned up in Abingdon, Didcot and Bicester to sign a petition run by Save Oxfordshire's Children's Centres and the Labour Party in the hope it would persuade them to "sit up and listen".

Hundreds more have added their names online.

Spokeswoman for Save Oxfordshire's Children's Centres, Jill Huish urged people from across the county to give their signature and make a difference.

She said: "This is the chance for you to influence the way your councillor votes and to appeal to them directly.

"By signing this petition you're saying to them 'look, if you don't vote against the cuts to children's centres, I won't vote for you in the next election.'

"At the end of the day, most councillors are interested in being re-elected, so if you show them you're serious about this, they should take your opinion on board."

Ms Huish added she "doesn't know where she'd be" without the county's children's centres.

She said: "I suffered abuse myself, which is a situation a lot of people are in in the county.

"The services gave me the help I needed and now lead a very happy, stable life.

"What these services across Oxfordshire do is so important and economically – and morally – it would be stupid to close them."

Chris Howells, constituency vice-chairman of the Bicester and Banbury Labour Party, said what the centres did was "vital".

He said: "The children's centres aren't just for troubled kids, they are for absolutely everyone who needs help or somewhere to go.

"And they also help people who are going through domestic abuse or other struggles. They are so important."

The council has proposed closing all 44 of the county's children's centres, and its seven early intervention hubs, and replacing them with eight family and resource centres.

There are three different options being considered by council leaders, but all involve a drastic reduction in the children's centre network, which support families of children under five.

Oxfordshire County Council is trying to save £290 million from 2010 to 2018 and may have to save up to £50 million on top of that.

Spokesman Paul Smith previously said the local authority was looking at "95 savings options across all of the council's services with the exception of children's social care".

This includes adult social care, libraries, highways, fire and rescue and trading standards.

Councillors have previously said the decision to make cuts to the children's centres would be a "difficult" one due to their "fantastic" work.

Sylvia Howells, left, treasurer for the Bicester Labour Party, and Jill Huish of Banbury, who has been the organiser of the county-wide Save Oxfordshire's Children's Centres Campaign, at the weekend protest

New stores to open

BANBURY: Clothing chains Next and New Look are due to open their doors at the new Banbury Gateway shopping centre today.

They will complete the complex as the final stores to open at the centre. The first shops opened for business in October.

Both stores' opening times are 9am.

Chapel to be razed

N OXON: A chapel will be knocked down in Adderbury to make way for four new houses.

Approval was given by Cherwell District Council on Monday to demolish the 1956 St George's Catholic Church in Round Close Road.

Tax hike is approved

OXON: A 27p per month increase in the Thames Valley police precept has been approved.

The two per cent rise means it now makes up £166.96 of Band D household council tax bills from April 1.

The move, proposed by police and crime commissioner Anthony Stansfeld, backed by a scrutiny panel.

The panel said it would protect frontline policing and fund 28 additional posts at the child abuse investigation unit, plus seven at the Oxfordshire multi agency support hub.

Auditions for play

BANBURY: Aspiring actresses are being invited to audition for the Cross Players' latest production, *The Regina Monologues*, on February 25.

The play tells the story of six women, each with an old tale of miscarriage, love affairs and betrayal.

The production will be presented at the Lighthorne Drama Festival, in Warwickshire, on June 10.

Auditions take place at the Mill Arts Centre from 8pm.

£2m project fails to ease bedblocking

MORE patients are stranded in hospital beds despite a radical £2m project to tackle the bedblocking crisis getting under way last year.

Health leaders announced plans in November to move medically fit patients stuck in hospital beds with nowhere to go into specially-commissioned beds at nursing homes.

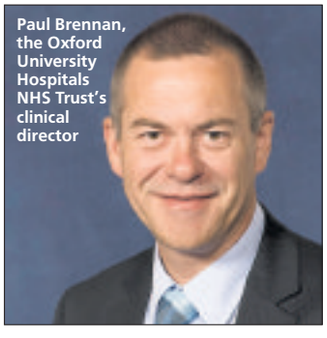
But it emerged on Thursday that despite 171 patients being transferred to these intermediate care beds over the past two months, there were now more delayed patients in hospitals than before the scheme started.

On January 28 there were a total of 168 patients stranded in acute and community hospital beds across the county – up from 150 in November.

Once patients are moved out of the hospital they are assessed to determine if they can go home or need further care.

The committee heard that while the scheme had been successful transferring patients out of the hospital beds, the flow was held up because there was not enough to help them move on to the next stage of their care.

Board members at Oxford University Hospitals and Oxford Health foundation trusts are offering incentives to encourage more staff to help.



Paul Brennan, the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust's clinical director

OUH clinical director Paul Brennan told the county council's joint health and scrutiny overview committee last Thursday the goal of the pilot scheme was to reduce the number of delayed patients to 30.

He said: "We are not where we would want to be today, so we have agreed a series of additional measures to bring us back into line. The biggest single issue is being able to improve that flow through all the various services, so people are managed at home."

Oxford Health, OUH, Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (OCCG) and the county council drew up the scheme last year in response to the county's high bedblocking rate.

The most recent comparable figures from NHS England, which takes a daily "snapshot" from trusts nationwide, showed in November Oxfordshire had the worst bedblocking rate in the country. The problem is estimated to cost £9m per year. Mr Brennan said because the scheme was only a pilot proposal, the trust could not force staff to move department. That is why he told councillors that offering incentives will allow the trusts to rack up an extra 1,600 hours of manpower a week – the equivalent to 40 full-time staff.

Healthwatch Oxfordshire's head of projects Carol Moore said it was disappointing the numbers were on the rise again.

Kids book charity plea for support

A CHARITY helping children struggling to read has put out an urgent appeal for more volunteers to come forward and join its work.

ARCh (Assisted Reading for Children) trains and supports volunteers to work one-to-one with primary school children to help spread a love of books.

It works with more than 100 schools around Oxfordshire, but since the start of the year an increase in the waiting list has meant more helpers are urgently needed.

It comes after the charity was awarded a £3,900 grant by the Gannett Foundation at the start of the year.

ARCh development manager Jane Rendle, who has been with the charity since it started eight years ago, said: "We are looking for volunteers who will aim to share a love of reading through playing games, communicating with children and introducing new books.

"We have children chosen by the school to join us for a variety of reasons – they might have a reading level below their peers, which may impact on their confidence."

Volunteers would spend about an hour twice a week at a nearby primary school, working with the same three children for a year.

There are about 30 schools on the Bicester-based charity's waiting list, and volunteers are badly needed.

The grant by the Gannett Foundation – the charitable arm of our parent company, Gannett – allowed the charity to buy hundreds of new books.

All volunteers are given a box of books and games chosen to help hook children on reading.

Members meet to share resources and ideas in meetings in Banbury and other towns. Training courses are in May.

The charity also wants firms to release staff for a couple of hours each week to volunteer.

See archoxfordshire.org.uk.

Children run in races from 100m up to 5k and in this one Isaac Orchard, five is leading the pack

Making dash for new runs

Youngsters line up for racing as new outdoor exercise opportunity for children is launched in park

Fraya Orchard, seven, out front

Kieran Davey
kdavey@nqo.com

PARENTS struggling to get their children fit and active have a new way to get them tired out in a Banbury park.

A set of free monthly running races was launched on Sunday in Spiceball Park. They are organised by national children's charity Kids Run Free and are aimed at participants aged up to 16.

Loosely based on the adult Parkrun, the races cover distances from 50m up to 5km.

More than 20 children took part in the first event, which was started by Banbury deputy mayor Gordon Ross.

Four-year-old Jimmy Marshall, of Banbury, was one of those taking part.

His father, Richard, said: "Jimmy loved the running. It was the first time he'd ever done anything like this. He's already said he'll back next time."

Mollington mother Angharad Orchard bought her children, Fraya, seven, and Issac, five.

She said: "It was lots of fun and it was good to get them outside running around."

Kids Run Free spokeswoman Carmen Old-Barreirra said: "KRF events are about personal achievement and how far a child can run, instead of how fast they are.

"By running together children don't feel they are competing, as they won't know how many laps others have run."

Volunteers are needed to help run races on the first Sundays of each month. Email justin@kidsrunfree.co.uk

REVIVAL CHRISTIAN CENTRE

Come and join one of our services every **Sunday morning at 10.30am**

At Banbury Town Hall

Bridge Street, Banbury, OX16 5QB

A CHURCH ALIVE IS WELL WORTH A DRIVE

Authors clash over usage of 'cold, hard' e-books

BOOK lovers in Oxfordshire are turning to electronic tomes more and more, according to latest figures from our libraries.

But as the country marked National Libraries Day on Saturday, the statistics sparked debate between the county's literary heavyweights.

Northern Lights author Philip Pullman has said "cold hard screens" of e-books will never replace well-thumbed volumes passed down the generations.

But children's illustrator Korky Paul has said anything that gets children reading is good.

It is forecast 33,084 will be taken out this financial year compared to 23,671 in 2014/15.

By comparison, the total number of books borrowed from county libraries has dropped by 17 per cent since 2010/ 11 from 4,189,869 in 2010/ 11 to 3,491,194 in 2014/ 15.

Philip Pullman, whose trilogy *His Dark Materials* has sold more than 4,375,000 copies and is now available as an e-book, said they would never compare to the "real thing".

Illustrator Korky Paul pictured in an Oxfordshire library, in Kennington

He said: "My feeling is that when a child is very young sharing a book with their parents at bedtime, there is much more engagement with a physical book.

"It is that particular battered copy with the bent corners and finger marks – that will never be replaced by a cold, hard screen."

Korky Paul, who lives in Oxford and is famous for illustrating the *Winnie the Witch* children's book series, said he had no problem with e-books, and said people needed to get used to the new way of reading or "sink".

He said: "Young kids don't mind reading in a different way: we have to change with the times.

"Modern technology has enhanced the quality of artwork in books, it's wonderful what we can do with typesetting and scanning and reproducing images."

But both authors agreed that libraries were a valuable community asset in their own right.

Mr Pullman, of Cumnor, said: "It is deplorable that any libraries have closed for all sorts of reasons: a library is a place where a young parent can take their child for a story; it is a place to read the paper or a magazine, or meet people to talk about books."

Membership to Oxfordshire's 43 public libraries fell by 3.3 per cent from 239,879 in April 2011 to 231,850 in April this year.

The county library service started offering e-books in March 2012.

Injured cockerel dumped on road

RSPCA is appealing for information on bird that was left in wooden box

Naomi Herring
nherring@nqo.com

A ONE-EYED injured cockerel was found in a "pretty bad way" dumped in a cage on the side of the road in Bloxham.

A member of the public was travelling through the village down Ell's Lane when they came across a dilapidated wooden cage dumped in the hedgerow.

Inside they found an injured cockerel – since named Echo – that was bleeding from multiple injuries and had also lost an eye.

The RSPCA were called to rescue the poorly bird and have since launched an investigation into how he could have been dumped in the village.

RSPCA animal collection officer Dennis Lovell said: "Echo is lucky to have been found as it is a fairly remote area.

"There is not a lot of people or houses around there and he is lucky that these kind people stopped to take a look.

"My heart sank when I arrived as I could see there was quite a lot of blood. He had lost an eye and looked as though he was in a pretty bad way so I really was not sure if he was going to make it or not.

"I kept my fingers crossed for him though and he made it through."

The RSPCA is appealing for anyone with information about the discarded wooden crate and injured cockerel.

The injured cockerel, which was bleeding from a number of injuries, with the cage, left, it was found in by the side of the road in Bloxham

MP comes out in support of UK staying inside reformed Europe

THE NORTH Oxfordshire MP has put forward her support for Britain to remain a part of a reformed European Union.

Conservative MP Victoria Prentis is campaigning for the country to stay part of the EU ahead of the upcoming referendum.

Mrs Prentis said it would be in "Britain's national interest" to remain a member but agrees with the Prime Minister's recent proposals for a reform.

She said: "I support the Conservatives for Reform in Europe (CRE) who believe that it is in Britain's national interest to remain a member of a reformed European Union.

"It is clear that there is a strong appetite for reforming our relationship with Europe, and I fully support the prime minister's ongoing renegotiation efforts.

"Earlier this week, the Prime Minister unveiled a draft of his proposed reforms including exempting Britain from ever-closer union, protecting the UK from discrimination outside the Eurozone, returning power to national parliaments, and applying an immediate brake to benefit payments for EU migrants – these proposals address my key concerns about the EU.

"The reforms are substantial and would redefine the UK's relationship with Europe."

Mrs Prentis urged people to discuss Britain's position in the EU ahead of the referendum, the date of which has not been set.

Local plan could see 22,800 new homes

BUSINESSES and homeowners are being urged by a Cherwell councillor to take part in the Local Plan consultation over the next six weeks.

Part two of the Cherwell Local Plan looks at more detailed policies for future developments in the district until 2031.

The plan looks to provide 22,800 homes by 2031 to help tackle the county's believed housing needs.

The district council's lead member for planning, Michael Gibbard, said: "Adoption of the Local Plan was a key milestone as it will be used to guide future planning applications over the next 15 years and provide a recognised defence against speculative development.

"However, having outlined our preferred strategic sites for housing and employment, we are now looking in closer detail at how we guide future development proposals and deliver smaller sites to help deliver essential infrastructure for local communities.

"This Part 2 consultation is all about engaging with residents, businesses and visitors to find out what they want to see delivered alongside the larger development sites and how detailed policy can be used to improve the quality of development in Cherwell.

"We want to create thriving, sustainable communities. We are asking for views on the issues and sites we need to consider."

The consultation will run until Friday, March 11, and plans can be found at public libraries, Cherwell District Council link points in Banbury, Bicester and Kidlington and council offices. Plans are also online at cherwell.gov.uk/policypublicconsultation.

WWW.BRISTOLSTREET.CO.UK

£1000 MINIMUM GUARANTEED DEPOSIT ALLOWANCE

FOR YOUR OLD CAR

The best deal in town available now at Bristol Street Motors. That's right, there's no need to go anywhere else for your next used car when Bristol Street Motors can give you this stunning offer of **£1000 Minimum Part Exchange deposit,** as long as it's got a current MOT and as part of a 4 or 5 year repayment plan.

15.9% APR REPRESENTATIVE

- The UK's fastest growing motor retailer!
- 6500 Used Cars in Group Stock
- Over 100 dealerships nationwide
- Used Car locator service
- Part Exchange welcome - Best prices paid
- We buy Cars for Cash!
- Finance packages to suit your budget
- Existing finance settled
- All vehicles Hpi checked
- Free 5 days insurance
- 99 Point Safety Check
- Service Plans available

Bristol Street Motors
A Great Deal More For You

JudgeService.com
93% Recommend Bristol Street Motors

Follow us on

BANBURY HYUNDAI
Southam Road, Banbury, OX16 2RS
Tel 01295 253 511

BANBURY PEUGEOT
Southam Road, Banbury, OX16 2RS
Tel 01295 253 511

Models shown for illustration purposes only. Finance subject to status. Terms and conditions apply. We will introduce you to a limited number of lenders who may be able to help finance your purchase. These lenders may or may not pay us for the introduction. Bristol Street Motors Banbury Peugeot and Banbury Hyundai are a subsidiary of Bristol Street Fourth Investments who is a credit broker authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority. Judge Service. 93.88% of customers would recommend Bristol Street Motors to friends and family based on 23,585 completed surveys over 6 months up to 16th November 2015. Terms and conditions apply.

Delay in councils' move to find sites for housing

A SEARCH for housing sites by Oxfordshire's six biggest councils has been delayed.

The Oxfordshire Growth Board said the strategic options development and assessment, which will set out where housebuilding could take place across the county, was now not scheduled to be complete until May 2.

This was five weeks later than originally planned, a report to the board said. It said the setback was due to the original consultants pulling out of the project at the last minute.

The assessment is now set to be carried out by Land Use Consultants.

The report to the growth board said the options assessment would be followed by a study on how housebuilding could affect roads and public transport.

That is likely to be finished by late July, it added.

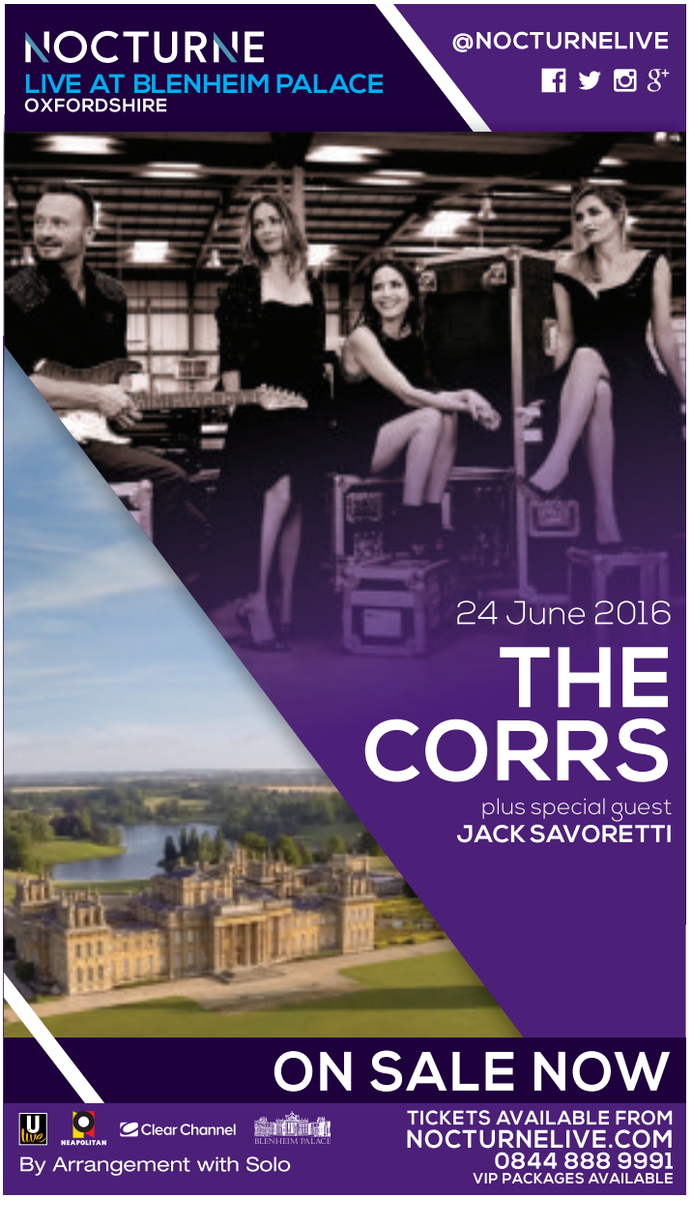
Five war memorials protected

FIVE war memorials in the county have been listed in the past year through Historic England's pledge to protect 2,500 by 2018, for the First World War centenary.

Memorials listed are in Banbury, South Newington, Stanton St John, Wheatley and Fulbrook. Historic England and the War Memorials Trust are offering grants to help the public submit applications to have their war memorials listed and repaired.

Culture secretary John Whittingdale said: "War memorials are a valued part of our heritage."

Michael Wood can be seen on TV screens at the moment with his latest documentary series, *The Story of China*, on BBC Four



Star speaker set for faith festival

TV historian will join a novelist and an expert on Shakespeare for the popular event

Former High Court judge Baroness Butler-Sloss, left, and Shakespeare expert Stanley Wells are on the bill

Kieran Davey
kdavey@nqo.com

TELEVISION historian Michael Wood will be the star guest for this year's Bloxham Festival of Faith and Literature held later this month.

The professor, who presents *The History of China* on BBC Two, will be discussing the works of Shakespeare, and his friends and family.

This year's festival, held for the fourth time, will take place between February 19-21 at Bloxham School and St Mary's Church.

Festival director Sarah Meyrick said: "We have a really varied programme lined up for 2016, with sessions that explore all sorts of themes from crime and forgiveness to poetry and cosmology.

"We have many excellent speakers and the most difficult thing is choosing what to go to.

"Tickets are selling fast and some sessions are already sold out.

"We're looking forward to a stimulating festival and a wonderful weekend."

Professor Wood will be joined by Shakespeare expert Stanley Wells for his talk on February 19, starting at 2.15pm.

Other speakers include novelist Salley Vickers and retired judge Baroness Elizabeth Butler-Sloss.

On February 21, there will be a Festival Eucharist at St Mary's Church, and during the afternoon there will be a visit and tour of Stratford-upon-Avon to tread in Shakespeare's footsteps in the company of a local expert.

For more details go to bloxhamfaithandliteraure.co.uk.

Zombies v Jane Austen
Films out this week – Page 15

Editor searching for his first byline

Stan is hoping a Cake reader may have a copy from the summer of '76

Kieran Davey
kdavey@nqo.com

A NEWSPAPER editor, who started his career as a tea boy at the *Banbury Cake* 40 years ago, has launched a search for his first byline.

Stan Szecowka began work as a trainee reporter at the *Cake* in 1976 and wrote his first story for the paper's *Film Scene* section.

Now, four decades on, he is enjoying life in much warmer climes as editor of Bahrain-based newspaper *Gulf Weekly*, but is still searching for that elusive cutting.

He said: "I treasured that first byline and have ended up chasing it ever since.

"It was fun times at the paper and I'd love to frame the page with the column on to show to my children and grandchildren.

"I would love to find a cutting or image of the page it was printed on, and didn't know if any readers might have an old copy of the *Cake* from that time hidden in a cupboard or attic, wrapping up some item in the loft or garage.

"It would make an old hack very happy."

The 56-year-old started out at his local paper after leaving secondary school, and was offered the joint position of trainee reporter, photographer and tea boy by then editor Graham Wilton.

He said the job opportunity came along when he was interviewed for the paper about a hitchhiking trip to Poland to meet his late father's family.

The former Bretch Hill resident added: "Graham interviewed us about our adventure with a tent, rucksack and a load of Ready Brek.

"As you could recall, at the time Eastern Europe was behind the Iron Curtain. One night we were chased by police with guns because we had a Union Jack on our rucksacks.

"Graham asked me what I wanted to do when I left school and I told him I wanted to be a journalist.

"Three days later he offered me the job on £12 a week and I never returned to school."

The weekly review involved reporters walking over to the Classic Cinema in Horsefair – now the Odeon – and picking up the following week's top movie synopsis.

Mr Szecowka would then head back to the *Cake*'s offices in Market Place and rewrite it for the paper's movie buffs.

To find the byline, he has contacted the British Library, local history websites and Mr Wilton's son, but to no avail.

Could you help find the missing paper, from the late summer of 1976? If you can, call the newsroom on 01865 425433.

Journalist Stan Szecowka, who is now working in Bahrain

Stan Szecowka back in the 1970s

Council 'activating' children during half-term

PARENTS looking to 'activate' their kids over the half term holidays can get involved with the free activities being hosted by Cherwell District Council.

Its activators are aiming to get children more active following a series of monthly online sport challenges.

The sessions are free and open to boys and girls eight to 16.

The first Banbury session is on Monday in Musketeer Park, from 3.30pm to 4.15pm.

Tuesday's sessions are from 1.30pm to 3pm at the Banbury Early Intervention Hub, and 3.30pm to 4.15pm at Hanwell Fields Park.

On Thursday, they will be at The Hill from 2pm to 3pm and Browning Road Park from 3.30pm to 4.15pm.

Friday's final session is at People's Park, from 1.30pm to 2.30pm.

Judges assess business awards candidates

APPLICATIONS are now being considered by judges after nominations closed for this year's Cherwell Business Awards.

The awards will be handed out during a ceremony in May at Begbroke Science Park.

Simon Keeping, the managing director of Kärcher UK – which won the Established Business award last year – said: "We strive to work closely with other businesses and organisations within Oxfordshire."

Categories, include New Business, Employer, Innovation and Creativity, Retail, Charity and Community, Business Person, Apprenticeship and Micro Business.

Quote ROPJG
Travel Special for Times Readers

5 DAY BREAK ONLY £179.99

Eastbourne & Brighton

Mon 11 to Fri 15 Apr

Your break includes: 4 nights dinner, bed & breakfast at the East Beach Hotel, Eastbourne • Entertainment on some nights • Excursions to Brighton & Lewes • Optional excursion to Royal Tunbridge Wells (£4.99) • Return coach travel from **Hereford, Leominster, Ludlow & Ross-on-Wye**

Single supplements and terms apply

For more information or to book, please call **08432 244 239** or visit us online at **justgoholidays.com**

ADVERTISEMENT

Cloudy2Clear Windows – Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Managing Director James Miller feels that it's all about service. 'Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 10 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done. We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole.'

Cloudy2Clear service the Oxford, Banbury & Abingdon areas and James is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give James a call for a free quotation on **0800 61 21 118** and he'll be happy to help!

STEAMED UP DOUBLE GLAZING?
Don't replace the Frames... just the Panes!
Broken or Damaged Windows?
Faulty Hinges, Handles or Locks?
Want The Latest Energy Saving Glass?
All Glazing Backed By Our
10 Year Manufacturers Guarantee
cloudy 2 CLEAR WINDOWS
Priority Freephone
0800 61 21 118
www.cloudy2clear.com
...we make saving money perfectly clear...

Council restructure set for May election

ELECTORS in Cherwell will vote in a restructured council at this year's elections in May.

In this year's vote the current 50 councillors will be reduced to 48 across 28 wards in line with the new ward boundaries.

In what has been dubbed a "big year" for the district, Cherwell District Council is urging people to remember to register.

Cherwell District Council returning officer Sue Smith said: "The entire structure of the council is set to change.

"Not only will every seat be up for election but there will be changes to the number of councillors and the ward boundaries."

This May will also bring about the second election for Police and Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley Police.

Ms Smith added: "All eligible voters will be able to take part in the district council and Police and Crime Commissioner elections.

"Depending on where they live, they may also be able to participate in parish or town council elections as a third of the parishes are due for election."

People will need to register their details or any changes of name or address by Monday, April 18. To register contact 01295 227005 or go to gov.uk/register-to-vote.

Opening Tuesday 23rd February

FIESTA MENU

£16.95 PER PERSON
INCLUDES A GLASS OF SANGRIA
FOR PARTIES OF 8 OR MORE

BRAVA LUNCH

£6.95 PER PERSON
FOR 3 TAPAS FROM A SELECTED MENU
MONDAY TO WEDNESDAY 12 TO 2PM
(EXCL. BANK HOLIDAYS)

FAMILY FIESTA MENU

£25 FOR A SELECTION OF
10 TAPAS FOR
2 ADULTS & 2 KIDS
AVAILABLE
MONDAY TO SATURDAY 6PM TO 7PM
SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY
TERMS & CONDITIONS APPLY

BOOK AT WWW.BRAVATAPAS.COM
25 MARKET SQUARE, CORNHILL, BANBURY OX16 5NG

A World of Oak

A TOUCH OF PINE

HURRY!
While Stocks Last

FREE
LOCAL DELIVERY
WHEN YOU SPEND
OVER £500

10%
Off All
Table & Chair Sets
Choose any set of chairs and a table and get an
extra 10% off

YOU MUST SEE OUR IN-STORE Savings!

10%
Off ALL
Bed & Mattress Sets
Choose any bed frame and mattress and get an
extra 10% off

www.atouchofpine.co.uk
B7 Telford Road, Bicester, Oxon OX26 4LD 01869 248864
Southam Road, Banbury, Oxon OX16 2RX 01295 277044
Open: Mon-Fri 9am-5.30pm, Sat: 9am-5pm, Sun: 10am-4pm

We assemble all tables FREE
We assemble all beds FREE (except Bunk Beds)
Delivery to the room of your choice or Take Away Today!
20,000 sq ft of solid wood, oak, pine and painted furniture IN STOCK NOW!

We Love Our Furniture and we want you to Love it too!

Valentines

BULK PURCHASE REWARDS THIS WEEKEND

£1000 - £1500 ..... SAVE 5%
£1501 - £2999 .....SAVE 7.5%
£3000 - £4999..... SAVE 10%
£5000 plus.....SAVE 15%

Clearance, Takeaway Items and Delivery Charges not included

www.atouchofpine.co.uk

Free training for people wanting to be carers

Classes offered to meet a shortfall in the supply of professional home carers

Naomi Herring
nherring@nqo.com

FREE training for carers is hoped to help tackle an increasing demand across the county.

Care provider Home Instead Senior Care has launched 100 new places for people between Oxford and North Oxfordshire to train as caregivers for free to help local elderly people stay independent at home for as long as possible.

It comes as Oxfordshire County Council predicts that – in line with the national shortage of social care workers – an extra 750 care jobs are needed per year to keep pace with the ageing population.

Many people who could make great carers are put off by wrong assumptions about the job, Home Instead Senior Care warned.

The owner of the North Oxfordshire office, Graham Holtom, said: "There just is not enough people wanting to do the role.

"The representation in the care sector is that you look after a person that might be bed ridden, you don't get to know them and never see them again but a lot of people just need that companionship.

"With us that role is different – people have time to get to know clients – but it is hard to get that message across as we are all tarnished with the same brush.

"We have a fabulous team of dedicated, caring and compassionate individuals, many of whom work part-time and all of whom are passionate about making a difference to their clients' lives."

The care provider pinpoints an ageing population and the idea of long hours caring for a large number of people for the demand in the care sector.

The Oxfordshire County Council lead on the social care workforce, Rachel Lawrence, added: "It is encouraging that Home Instead Senior Care are making access to training and development a key part of their recruitment offer.

"Investing in staff learning and development makes the most of employers' recruitment investment and is likely to aid retention too."

After the Home Instead training, caregivers will be able to receive the nationally recognised care certificate and further qualifications.

To apply contact recruitmentoxford@homeinstead.co.uk or 01865 841362.

Home Instead Senior Care staff co-ordinator Lauren Livingstone (standing) gives advice to participants on the training course

Banbury painter lands art award

A BANBURY painter has been the named as the winner of the first Ironstone Art Prize award.

Muriel Gerrish was given the award for her painting of *Winter Willow*, depicting a winter landscape.

The Oxford Art Society member impressed the judges with her layers of rich colour and "sense of drama" created through the painting.

Her award, open to all artists within the surrounding area of Banbury, was presented at a private viewing evening at Banbury Museum last Thursday.

Museum events and exhibitions manager Dale Johnston said: "The awards evening for the Ironstone Art Prize gives us a chance to celebrate the artistic talent in this area."

The artwork is now on display in the museum so visitors can view, buy pieces and vote for the People's Prize.

The prize gives members of the public to have their say on their favourite piece, with voting open until February 20.

Mr Johnston said: "It has been great to launch the exhibition in style with the support of local organisations, and I look forward to visitors voting for their own favourite artwork."

The art prize was supported by Senecio Art and Banbury Visual Arts. The exhibition will be open until March 12.

End of chapel

A CHAPEL will be knocked down in Adderbury to make way for four new houses. Approval was given by Cherwell District Council on Monday to demolish the 1956 St George's Catholic Church in Round Close Road.

BanburyCake

Reader Offers
Quality holidays & breaks at affordable prices

Newmarket Holidays

Hidden Spain
The treasures of the Costa Verde
8 days from £529.00, 24 May & 4 October 2016
This wonderful 'cruise and stay' holiday includes overnight sailings on board Brittany Ferries' splendid cruise-ferry, the Pont-Aven. The ship's excellent amenities and entertainment programme are a hugely enjoyable part of the holiday, which gives you the chance to discover the wonderful scenery and vibrant culture of northern Spain.
Highlights & inclusions
- Cantabrian Coast excursion
- Castles & Coast excursion
- Visit to Santander
- Five nights dinner, bed and continental breakfast accommodation at the Hotel El Vivero 11 in Suances
- Return overnight crossings with Brittany Ferries in a two berth cabin from Portsmouth to Santander
- Coach travel from the local area
- Escorted by a friendly tour manager

*Book by 29 February 2016. Please quote code SMOXUS. £10 reduction off the price shown above. Offer may be withdrawn at any time.

Amsterdam, Windmills & Waterways
Discover the highlights of Holland
4 days from £239.00, 2 September 2016
This wonderful break will introduce you to the highlights of this famously colourful country. From delightful Amsterdam, with its canals, cobblestones and café-bars, to the village of Zaanse Schans with its traditional wooden windmills and houses, and to the pretty 'Zuider Zee' town of Volendam.
Highlights & inclusions
- Visit to Amsterdam with an included panoramic city tour
- Visit to Zaanse Schans
- Entrance to a traditional windmill
- Three nights' four-star bed and full hot buffet breakfast in the Fletcher Hotel Nieuwegein-Utrecht
- Coach travel from the local area and Channel crossings by ferry
- Escorted by a friendly tour manager

*Book by 29 February 2016. Please quote code SMOXUS. £10 reduction off the price shown above. Offer may be withdrawn at any time.

WINNER BRITISH TRAVEL AWARDS 2015 BEST LARGE ESCORTED TOURS HOLIDAY COMPANY

Convenient local coach pick-up points!

Call 0330 160 7730 QUOTE OXS Visit newmarketholidays.co.uk/oxs

These holidays are organised & operated by Newmarket Promotions Ltd, ABTA V7837X. Subject to availability. Single supplements apply. Standard phone charges.

ABTA Travel with confidence

Oxfordshire Listings

Events

SATURDAY

Bicester & Kidlington Ramblers: SP446168, Hensington Road car park, Woodstock. Moderate 10-mile circular walk via Wootton, Blenheim Park and Coombe, led by Mary Gough. Picnic lunch. 10am. 07939 826412.
Half-term half price at Oxford Castle: Kids discount for Oxford Castle Unlocked. Enjoy a guided tour of the 1,000-year–old castle prison. Book in advance atoxfordcastleunlocked.co.uk. Discount valid when accompanied by a full paying adult. Standard child price is £7.50. Adult: £10.75, Child discount: £3.75, Concession: £9. 01865 260666.
Steamday: Didcot Railway Centre. Collection of Great Western Railway locomotives, coaches and goods wagons, GWR buildings. Ride trains, engine shed and carriage shed. didcotrailwaycentre.org.uk. £10 adult, £8 child. 01235 817200.
Walk (Fieldpaths): Steeple Barton, Church. SP448249. 6 miles. Annual snowdrop walk. Bring refreshments for break. Pub at end. Assistance dogs only 10am. 01865 862425.

SUNDAY

Bicester & Kidlington Ramblers: SP462193, layby next to Sturdy's Castle on A4260, Tackley. A leisurely 8.5-mile circular farmland walk, via Wootton. Bring a picnic lunch. Mary Whitehead is the walk leader. 10am. 07906 895064.
Half-term half price at Oxford Castle: See Saturday for details.
Ramblers walk: Car park behind King & Queen pub, Wheatley. 7½-mile walk via Shotover and Forest Hill. Bring a picnic. 10am. 01865 423555.
Snowdrop Teas and Duck Races: Aston Rowant Church, Church Lane. Suitable for all the family. Wear wellies. Tea and cakes in church. 2pm. 01844 353296.
Steamday: Didcot Railway Centre. See Saturday for details.

MONDAY

Half-term half price at Oxford Castle: See Saturday for details.
Mud Pie Monday: Earth Trust, Little Wittenham. Session in the Earth Trust Centre garden, with buckets of mud and buckets of fun. Wellies and waterproofs advisable. Free taster session. No need to book. See earthtrust.org.uk/whatson. 10am. 01865 407792.

TUESDAY

Half-term half price at Oxford Castle: See Saturday for details.

WEDNESDAY

Steamday: Didcot Railway Centre, For details, see Saturday.
Half-term half price at Oxford Castle: See Saturday for details.
Wildlife Wednesday: Mowbray Fields Nature Reserve, Mowbray Road, Didcot. Learn about wildlife and have outdoor fun. £2 suggested donation per child; no need to book. 2pm. 01865 407792.
Woodland Adventure: Earth Trust, Little Wittenham. An expedition for 5-8s. Use detective skills to discover the woodland, explore, build and play. £4 suggested donation per child. 10am. 01865 407792.

Music

THURSDAY

Choir Rehearsal: St Francis Primary School, Horspath Road, Cowley. Come and join the Oxford Welsh Male Voice Choir. No Experience needed. Work out if your voice fits with first tenor, second tenor, baritone or bass. Rehearsals every Thursday, from 7.30pm to 9.30pm. Just get in touch to make arrangements. From Welsh hymns and folk songs to Mozart, Les Misérables , Queen and Sinatra. oxfordwelshmvc.org.uk. £70 a year. 01235 203929.
Lunchtime Concert: Wesley Memorial Methodist Church, New Inn Hall Street, Oxford. Free concert. Check wesleymem.org.uk for this week's details. 12.45pm. 01865 243216.

FRIDAY

Big Band Jazz: Swingtime, Holton Village Hall. Music of Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Bennie Goodman, Woody Herman played by 8-piece swing orchestra. In support of Whitworf Trust and Friends of St Bartholomew's Church, Holton, Restoration Fund. 8pm. £10 (£8). 01865 872293.
C Duncan: The Old Fire Station, George Street, Oxford. Nominated for 2015 Mercury prize with album *Architect*. Mixing lo-fi folk with choral harmonies. Tickets £9 from ticketsoxford.com or £11 on door. 01865 305305. 8.15pm.
Country & Western Night: Westcott Sports and Social Club, Ashendon Road. Live music with Boxcar Trio. 7.30pm. £5 members, £7 non-members. 01296 651855.
Ulla's Odyssey: North Wall Arts Centre, South Parade, Summertown. Ulla, 16, is attempting to become the youngest person to sail the world single-handedly, with only her cat for company. OperaUpClose present this new opera, inspired by Homer's Odyssey. Live music and puppetry, suitable for ages 7+, families. 1.30pm. £14 (£10 concs, £8 children). 01865 319450.
Mudslide Morris & the Revelators: James Street Tavern, Oxford. Delta blues and boogie. 9pm. Free. 07790646028.
Open night: White House, Abingdon Road, Oxford. Oxford Folk Club. 8.30pm. £2. 01865 768128.
Orchestra of The Age of Enlightenment: Sheldonian Theatre, Broad Street, Oxford. Haydn Symphony no. 83 in G minor *La poule*; Mozart Concerto for Flute and Harp in C, featuring Lisa Beznosiuk (flute) and Frances Kelly (harp); Chevalier de Saint-Georges Overture *L'amant Anonyme* Beethoven Symphony no. 2 in D op. 36. Sir Roger Norrington. 7.30pm. £10-£42 (concs from £5). 01865 244806.
Slade UK: The Northcourt (Abingdon Utd FC), Northcourt Road. Tribute band. 7.30pm. £10 advance, £12 door. 01235 856076.
Witney Winter Concert: Wood Green School, Woodstock Road. Alessandro Ruisi, violin, and Dina Duisen, piano, of Countess of Munster Trust scheme, with sonatas by Mozart, Beethoven and Franck. Tickets on door or from Rapture (Woolgate) or Greenway Antiques (Corn St.). 7.30pm. £12 (£11 seniors, £1 under-19). 01993 702296.

SATURDAY

A Night At The Light Opera: Aylesbury Opera Group, John Paul II Centre, The Causeway, Bicester. Well-loved classical tunes. Doors open 7.30pm. Tickets from 01869 324307, Tim Lane 01869 277523, or door. 8pm. £7.
Doug and Dan: Cricketers, Temple Road, Cowley. Father and son duo perform covers. Free. 9pm. 01865 718459.
Eglesfield Musical Society Saturday Recital Series: The Queen's College, Shulman Auditorium, High Street, Oxford. Josie Perry and James Orrell, vocal recital. 1.30pm. Free, with a retiring collection. 01865 279120.
Nikki Petherick: Horseshoe, Bridge Street, Bampton. Covers. Free. 9pm. 01993 209052.
No Sticky Floors: Old Fire Station, George Street, Oxford. Traditional and contemporary folk music from Oxford's Blackthorn, The Balkan Wanderers and Bewarethisboy, served up with fiddles, drums, bass, electric guitar, clarinet and bouzouki. oldfirestation.org.uk. 7.30pm. £8. concs £4. 01865 305305.
Valentine's Eve Live Music: Simon Scardanelli album launch. The Plough Inn, Church Street, Marsh Gibbon. Also Ploughmen. 8.15pm. Free. 01869 278759.

To get an event of any kind listed here, enter the details into our easy-to-use online database at thisisoxfordshire.co.uk/events
Please add your event no later than ten days before the day of publication.

SUNDAY

Joe Holic: Comrades Club, Newbury Street, Wantage. A Valentine's special with hits from 60s to present. 2pm. 01235 769688.

MONDAY

Ezra Furman: O2 Academy, Cowley Road, Oxford. Ezra is performing a small run of February dates with tracks from his new album, *Perpetual Motion People*. 7pm. £12.50. 01865 813500.

TUESDAY

OSJ Ashmolean Proms: Ashmolean Museum, Beaumont Street, Oxford. Royal Academy strings, Hannah Frazer-Mackenzie soprano, Debussy, Quilter, Vaughan-Williams, Britten. John Lubbock conductor. 7.30pm. £25 (£10). 07775 904626.
Oxford Improvisers: The Old Fire Station, George Street, Oxford. The Oxford Improvisers hold their events on the first Tuesday of the month. Inviting guests from Britain and abroad they perform new and improvised music. Tickets, £9, £6, from ticketsoxford.com or 01865 305305. 7.45pm.

WEDNESDAY

The Queen's College Organ Recital Series: Chapel, High Street, Oxford. Peter Shepherd (Merton College); 1.10pm. Free with a retiring collection. 01865 279125.

Dance

THURSDAY

Drayton Sequence Dance: Drayton Village Hall, Lockway, Abingdon. Club every Thursday at 7.30pm, dance and social. Call Brian on 01235 531701. 7.30pm. £2. 01235 531701.
Rhythm and Dance: Rugrats and Halfpints, Beaumont Road, Banbury. Dance class every Thursday, 10.30am to 11.15am. Run by Come to My Party. Suitable from a young age. See rugratsandhalfpints.com for entry prices. Class free with entry. 01295 250060.
Witney Folk Dance Group: Madley Park Hall, Northfield Farm Lane, Witney. Learn English Country Dances. 8pm. £3. 01993 705961.

FRIDAY

Red Ceilidh Anti-Valentines Event: East Oxford Community Centre, 44b Princes Street, Oxford. Caller Steph West will guide you through dances, with the Guerrilla Ceilidh band plus special guests providing tunes. Dance with a mate or a date. Doors 7.30pm, dancing 8pm. £7. 07796 171212.

SATURDAY

Oxford Historical Dance Society: St John's Church Hall, Kidlington. 15th-century French Basse dances and Tudor dances taught by Anne Daye. No need to bring a partner. 10.30am. £25/£20/students £10. 01225 344353.

MONDAY

Mr Hemmings Traditional Morris Men: Abingdon Morris, Royal British Legion, Spring Road. Practice at 8pm. Looking for new dancers to join. Free.
Abingdon Scottish Country Dancing: Northcourt Centre, Northcourt Road, Abingdon. Beginners welcome. abingdonscdc.wordpress.com/ or Hilary 01235 528154 for details. 8pm. £5 to join, then £2 each time.
Ceroc dance class: The Glee Club, Hythe Bridge Street, Oxford. Fusion of modern jive and salsa. No partner needed and no need to book, See cerocoxford.com. 7.30pm. £9 (or £7 after 9.45pm). 07974 388340.
Morris Winter Practice: Recreation Hall, Main Street, Long Hanborough. Masons Apron Northwest welcomes new and experienced dancers to join. The side has a full summer diary. Musicians also welcome. 8.15pm. 01993 200717.
Tea Dance: Woodstock Social Club, Oxford Street. Enjoy a dance or just a chat with friendly crowd. Entrance includes tea/coffee & cake. 2pm. £2. 01993 812094.

Comedy

THURSDAY

Ed Aczel: The Random Flapping of a Butterfly's Wings. The Old Fire Station, George Street, Oxford. "Britain's greatest living anti-comedian" Ed Aczel on tour, tries to nail down the nature of existence. Tickets £7, £5 from ticketsoxford.com or 01865 305305. 8pm.

SUNDAY

David O'Doherty: Glee Club, Hythe Bridge Street, Oxford. David O'Doherty, the Lidl Enya, the broken Bublé, talking and playing songs. 6.45pm. £16. 0871 472 0400.

MONDAY

The Oxford Imps: The Wheatsheaf, High Street, Oxford. A show based on audience suggestions, the Imps blend a range of formats from musicals to mime. See oxfordimps.com. Tickets facebook.com/oxfordimps. 8pm. £3.50.

TUESDAY

Comedy Scratch Night: The Old Fire Station, George Street, Oxford. Watch new comedy emerge. Comedians: You can do any form of comedy. Want to perform? Email info@oldfirestation.org.uk with Comedy Scratch as subject. Tickets, £5, ticketsoxford.com or 01865 305305.

WEDNESDAY

Stand up for Labour: The Cornhill Centre, Castle Street, Banbury. Fund-raising event for Banbury Labour Party with three stand-up comedians, famed for their outrageous political humour. Juliet Meyers tours the comedy circuit, but is also as a joke writer for TV and radio. Norman Lovett made his name on *Red Dwarf*, as computer Holly. Wil Hodgson, a former wrestler, won Best Newcomer at the Edinburgh Festival in 2004. 7pm. £12.50 in advance; £15 on door. 01296 810813.

Theatre

THURSDAY

Hetty Feather: Oxford Playhouse, Beaumont Street. From best-selling author Jacqueline Wilson, the tale of plucky Hetty Feather is brought to the stage in this Olivier Award-nominated production, direct from a sell-out West End season. Storytelling, circus skills, songs. 2.30pm. £12 to £23.50. 01865 305 305.
HYPERDRIVE: Improv Meets Technology at Simpkins Lee Theatre, Lady Margaret Hall, Norham Gardens, Oxford. Bring an internet-connected device for an hour of stories, scenes, characters, and themes inspired by interactions with the audience through Facebook, dating profiles, live surveys, and maybe a drone. Download the cloud app before the show. 8pm. £5.

FRIDAY

Busybody (Comedy Whodunnit!): Drayton Village Hall, Lockway, Abingdon. Drayton Players, directed by Deidre Jones of Break-a-Leg Productions. Performances February12/13, 7.30pm. Tickets from Vickery's store or call 01235 200350. £8.
Busybody (Comedy Whodunnit!): 7.30pm. £8. 01235 200350. For details, see Friday.
Hetty Feather: Oxford Playhouse. 2.30pm. See Thursday for details.

SATURDAY

The Missy Malone & Friends Burlesque Revue (age guide 16+): Cornerstone Arts Centre, Station Road, Didcot. Scottish burlesque princess and friends with tassels, tease, comedy, music and cabaret. 8pm. £18, £16.50 (concs). 01235 515144.

SUNDAY

Funday Sunday Puppets Go Wild: Pegasus Theatre, Magdalen Road, Oxford. Show for under-5s, with puppetry, interactive songs and gentle clowning, plus a chance to meet the puppets after the show. Funky Monkey and the Juicy Fruits, 11am & 2pm. Funky Monkey has lost his funk. £5. 01865 812150.

MONDAY

Oxfordshire Gang Show: Radley College Theatre, Kennington Road. A youth variety show by Scouts & Guides. 7.15pm. £11 (group rate available). oxfordgangshow.org.uk

TUESDAY

Sister Act: Wykham Theatre, Banbury Academy, Ruskin Road. Banbury Operatic Society. Ahead of national tour. Director Janet Bishop, Nick Perry as musical director and Ben Coleman as choreographer. Tickets at banburyoperaticsociety.co.uk or from Anker & Partner, High Street. 7.30pm. £14/£12 concessions.

WEDNESDAY

Sister Act: Wykham Theatre. 7.30pm. For details, see Tuesday.

ARE YOU TEARING YOUR HAIR OUT TRYING TO FIND QUALITY TRADES PEOPLE?

Inspired Trades and Property are a group of independent companies that know, trust and recommend each other. We aim to inspire consumer confidence - as we are not only accountable to you but to each other as professionals - and save you the chore of searching for multiple property-related services

Architect — Neil Clarke Architecture

A full range of architectural services delivered with three core principles: clear communication, simple fee proposals, prompt and professional services. We have a specialism for getting planning approved, even if it has been declined before, so call us for a chat about your project.

www.nca-architecture.co.uk

neilclarkearchitecture limited

Flooring — SP Carpets & Flooring

Working with both domestic and commercial clients we pride ourselves on the vast array of flooring we are able to offer; from carpets to solid wood and everything in between. We have built our reputation on value for money, a fantastic fitting service and brilliant relationships with our customers.

www.spcarpets.co.uk

SP CARPETS & FLOORING

Estate Agent — Taylor Cox

Sales, mortgages and damned fine advice!
Recently established but already instructed by national home builders, Taylor Cox are Oxfordshire's Property Professionals. They combine their property expertise and no-nonsense approach to sell your home for the best price with minimal stress. Call today for a free valuation.

www.taycox.com

Interior Design — Clarify Interiors

From a one-room makeover to a whole new look, clutter clearing to finishing touches, our interiors magic makes the most of your space whatever your budget. We're home staging experts too, trained by TV's House Doctor Ann Maurice to highlight your property's full potential, helping home-owners and developers sell or let fast and profitably.

www.clarifyinteriors.co.uk

CLARIFY INTERIORS

Letting Agent — Right Letting Agents

Are you fed up with letting agents charging excessive fees and offering a sub-standard service? We offer fixed fees of 9%, no hidden extras and a free six month rent guarantee. We have an expert knowledge of Oxfordshire and a proven track record managing and finding the perfect tenants for your properties.

www.rightestateagents.co.uk

right letting agents

Plumbing & Heating — rb Gas

We are Oxford's premier plumbing and heating company, and have saved customers £1000's as we maintain & repair rather than replace. We repair, service & install boilers, central heating, underfloor and warm air heating, gas fires, water heaters, cookers and more. Save some money by simply calling us before Christmas to book your next boiler service for only £60 plus vat.

www.rbgas.co.uk

rb gas

Carpet Cleaner — Grimebusters

We clean carpets, rugs and upholstery throughout Oxfordshire and the Cotswolds. Grimebusters use the latest low moisture machinery to leave your carpets beautifully clean and usable within the hour. Unbeatable results, competitive rates and no damp and nasty 'wet dog' smells hanging round your house for days after. Prompt, polite and professional, you know who to call!
www.grimebusters.co.uk

GRIMEBUSTERS

Electrician — Isis Electrical

Isis Electrical offers a full electrical service, from a simple socket to delivering a fully integrated smart home. All our engineers are highly qualified, CRB checked and registered with the relevant bodies. Our service includes 48hr turnaround on estimates, call backs and appointment reminders, so there are no nasty shocks!

www.isiselectrical.co.uk

ie

Garden & Grounds — Me, My Spade and I

We provide specialist horticultural services to residential and commercial clients of all sizes. Everything you need for a beautiful garden or grounds from design and plant selection, landscaping and installation, to regular or periodic maintenance. Give us a call to get your garden looking its best all year round.

www.memyspadeandi.com

Me My Spade & I

Kitchen Design — J&S House of Design

What do you look for in a new kitchen? We don't ask what you want to spend, but more importantly what you want for your spend. We work with leading brands and product options and with 30 years' experience in kitchen, bedroom and bathroom design, J&S House of Design will provide you with more than you thought possible for every room in your home.
www.jshouseofdesign.co.uk

JS

Painter & Decorator — Creations Painting Ltd

We offer bespoke painting and decorating services including wall papering, wood treatment and restoration, utilising both modern and traditional techniques to create your desired finish. We also hold the Dulux Select standard and trust mark, offering a two year guarantee on work with Dulux paints.

www.creationspaint.co.uk

Creations Paint

Security Systems — Safeguard Secure Solutions

Safeguard install, maintain and repair alarms, CCTV, door entry systems and automated gates. A family run accredited company with over 45 years' experience, we offer a responsive local service at an affordable rate. If you would like our help with an existing security system as listed above, or if you want to talk about new security measures we are happy to offer our advice.

www.safeguardsecure.co.uk

SAFEGUARD

Call us today to talk to any of our Inspired Trades on 01865 595695
email: info@inspiredtrades.co.uk | www.inspiredtrades.co.uk

CakeLeisure

banburycake.co.uk/leisure

Elegant drama sizzles with tensions

Ralph Fiennes in *A Bigger Splash*

***A BIGGER SPLASH* (15, 124 mins) A drama/romance with Tilda Swinton, Matthias Schoenaerts, Ralph Fiennes and Dakota Johnson. Director: Luca Guadagnino**

SUN, sea, sex and skulduggery are the key ingredients of writer-director Luca Guadagnino's spicy cinematic cocktail, which elegantly updates the erotically charged 1969 thriller *La Piscine* from St Tropez to the rugged Sicilian island of Pantelleria.

Simmering sexual tensions of the original have been turned up to a furious boil in *A Bigger Splash*, which demands full-frontal nudity from almost the entire cast as the battle of the sexes claims at least one casualty.

The striking backdrop of a volcanic Mediterranean island is an apt metaphor for the dormant desires of morally conflicted characters, who threaten to erupt under sustained provocation.

The four protagonists all seem capable of inflicting a fatal blow and breaking the heady spell of the untamed idyll.

It's this air of uncertainty and impending doom which electrifies every frame of Guadagnino's stylistically specific vision.

Once again, the filmmaker collaborates with Oscar-winning British actress Tilda Swinton and gifts her a plum role as a David Bowie-esque glam rock doyenne called Marianne Lane, who is recuperating from surgery on her vocal chords.

Medically enforced silence forces Swinton to convey tortuous emotions through movement rather than words, allowing her co-stars to inflict damage with their well-placed verbal grenades.

Marianne has retreated to a villa on Pantelleria with her boyfriend, documentary filmmaker Paul De Smedt (Matthias Schoenaerts), who has tamed her wild, drug-crazed excesses while shaking himself free of alcoholism.

During a lazy afternoon on a secluded beach, Marianne receives a telephone call from her old flame, boorish record producer Harry Hawkes (Ralph Fiennes), who has arrived unexpectedly on the island.

Swinton is in imperious form and the on-screen chemistry with Schoenaerts is molten.

Guadagnino repeatedly turns up the heat until we're itching for a cooling dip in the ominously blue waters of Marianne's pool.

The pout is back out

***ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE ROAD CHIP* (U)**

LOVE is in the air ... but not for long if the helium-voiced furballs get their way. This ramshackle road movie contrives a flimsy excuse for the singing rodents to want to sabotage the flourishing romance of their surrogate father.

***DEADPOOL* (15)**

THE latest visit to the X-Men universe, sees former Special Forces operative Wade Wilson (Ryan Reynolds) discover he has cancer. He is offered experimental treatment to mutate the cancer cells and transform into a mentally unstable hero.

***ZOOLANDER NO 2* (12A)**

THE pout is out in this sequel to the 2001 comedy directed by and starring Ben Stiller. Ageing supermodel Zoolander is in decline, but musical celebrities are being assassinated and their bodies found with his iconic "Blue Steel" look on their faces.

Out this week: top, *Deadpool; Alvin and the Chipmunks*, above; *Zoolander No 2*, below

Flat Jane Austen parody is no ripper

Douglas Booth in zombie Austen action

***PRIDE AND PREJUDICE AND ZOMBIES* (15)**

ADAPTED from a parody novel, this puts a gruesome twist on Jane Austen's tale, transplanting the action to a bodice-ripping 19th-century Britain where young women are skilled in swordplay.

Lily James is heroine Elizabeth in a tale of repressed desire and gore.

The film fizzes when director Burr Steers and his attractive cast play Austen's vacillations of the heart straight. However, every time corpses shuffle into view, the ensuing bloodbath is a bore.

***CONCUSSION* (12A)**

AMERICAN football players with long careers can look forward to more than 45,000 head blows.

Dr Bennet Omalu, a forensic pathologist, challenged NFL studies that concluded there was no evidence of players getting neck injuries or concussion.

A true story of underdog versus a corporate giant, with Will Smith as Omalu.

Cake Bookworm

My Name Is Lucy Barton **by Elizabeth Strout, hardback by Viking, £12.99 (ebook £9.49)**

Exploring the complicated nature of love and familial relationships, *My Name Is Lucy Barton* begins with a lonely mother-of-two confined to a hospital bed in New York City in the mid-1980s. Forced to confront the challenges of her past when her estranged mother comes to visit, Lucy also has to contend with the fact her future lies in the balance unless she recovers from a mystery illness which appears following the removal of her appendix. Elizabeth Strout sucks you into an exquisitely written story, anecdotally retold in perfectly constructed short chapters. From Lucy's troubled and isolated childhood, to her current day marital problems and parenting dilemmas, it's a brutally honest, absorbing and emotive read. Though the novel is primarily driven by Lucy's voice and explores her relationships, the reader is also privy to the failed marriages and emotional breakdowns of friends, relations and acquaintances from the past. Previously winning a Pulitzer for her much-lauded novel *Olive Kitteridge*, Elizabeth's follow-up is just as powerful, insightful and unforgettable.

Shylock Is My Name **by Howard Jacobson, hardback by Hogarth, £16.99 (ebook £9.99)**

Howard Jacobson has the pedigree to take on a modern interpretation of William Shakespeare's *The Merchant Of Venice*. Winner of the Man Booker Prize (for *The Finkler Question*) and a writer of celebrated fiction and non-fiction, Jacobson is ideally suited to write about one of literature's most famed Jews. Jewish himself, Jacobson brings a telling insight to a tale of wealthy art collector Simon Strulovitch whose battles with the women in his life lead him down a path which eventually see him demanding his pound of flesh. Set in Cheshire's Golden Triangle, where appearances matter more than principles, *Shylock Is My Name* examines what it is like to be Jewish in modern-day Britain.

The High Mountains Of Portugal **by Yann Martel, hardback by Canongate Books, £16.99 (ebook £8.54)**

The High Mountains Of Portugal is a new novel by *Life Of Pi* author Yann Martel. It's really three novellas: the first set in 1904 about a grieving young man called Tomas travelling across the country in search of a religious relic; the second, the tale of a pathologist who becomes embroiled in a murder investigation; the third is about a Canadian senator who takes refuge in Portugal following the loss of his wife. The minute details of the inner workings of Tomas' car, the horrendous description of the autopsy, and the senator's chimpanzee companion, made me want to put it down.

Museum re-opens Saturday 13 February

new name...
more cars...
new exhibits...

Fun for all the family this half term

£39 FAMILY TICKET
BUY 1 DAY GET 12 MONTHS FREE*

britishmotormuseum.co.uk
J12 M40 . Gaydon . Warwickshire . CV35 0BJ
*see website for full terms and conditions.

GET SOCIAL...

BRITISH MOTOR MUSEUM

come and see what's new...

CakeSport

banburycake.co.uk/sport

Bulls' hopes of cup joy are blown away

Banbury crash out in windy conditions

BANBURY Bulls' RFU Intermediate Cup run was halted at the quarter-final stage with an 11-5 defeat at home to Kidderminster Carolians in wet and windy conditions.

Banbury won the toss and elected to play against the elements in the first half, allowing the visitors to march into an 11-0 lead at the break.

An unconverted try in the left corner put Carolians 5-0 up in the early stages, after they had moved the ball well in difficult conditions.

Stand-in fly half Ed Phillips struggled to make an impact on the game.

Banbury allowed the visitors territory and possession, with two penalties increasing their advantage before the break.

Despite having the wind in their favour in the second half, the Bulls struggled to mount any meaningful attacks.

However, optimism was restored when Sean Bannister crossed in the corner. Phillips was unable to convert.

Moments later, when Banbury were awarded a penalty, Phillips sent his kick right of the posts in the testing blustery conditions.

The home side continued to labour on, but struggled to get their hands on the ball, ending frustrated as their five-match winning streak came to an end.

Banbury return to Midlands 2 West (South) League action on Saturday when they visit Dunlop.

Sean Bannister scores Banbury's try against Kidderminster

We're out to attack – Ford

BANBURY United boss Mike Ford has promised a positive attacking performance as his side welcome fellow play-off contenders North Leigh to the Spencer Stadium on Saturday, *writes Matthew Bruce.*

With 68 goals in 27 games, the Puritans are the top scorers in Evo-Stik Southern League Division 1 South & West, but are yet to beat any of their promotion rivals this season.

It is due to an uncharacteristic cautiousness against top opposition, according to Ford, but that won't be a problem this time.

"We're not going to set ourselves up defensively this weekend," he said.

"We're as good as anyone in this league and we don't need to fear anybody.

"We have an array of attacking talent at our disposal, we're top scorers in the division and we've only lost three times all season. The players agree and I've promised them they will be allowed to play attacking football."

Mark Bell returns to a forward line which has scored a remarkable 20 goals in their last four league matches.

Victory would give Banbury a six-point cushion over their rivals, but Ford said: "It's not the be all and end all if we don't win. It won't decide our season, it's just a really good game we're looking forward to and we hope the fans will come out en masse and back us."

STARS with Claire Petulengro

Service provided by IMS Leeds LS1 8LB. Calls cost 60p per minute at all times

ARIES Mar 21-Apr 19
It would be to your benefit to give a loved one a little more time and space to prove themselves before you judge them. You see Aries, Mars is making issues far more complex than they at first seem and you don't want to risk losing a valued friendship for the sake of an impatient mood. Ring now to be the best ram you can be.

0906 585 4360

TAURUS Apr 20-May 20
You are finally beginning to see those you had up on a pedestal on your own level. About time too Taurus. You start to enjoy life and feel worthy of the offers which have come before you. New faces with strange accents link to the fun times I see ahead for you. Ring now to hear how you can afford to be honest in love.

0906 585 4361

GEMINI May 21-Jun 20
You have done a lot of growing up lately Gemini. This independent phase you are now in gives you the chance to spread your wings and enjoy life more freely than you have in years. Enjoy my friend. It's been a long time coming. Ring now for future insight.

0906 585 4362

CANCER Jun 21-Jul 22
Faces who called themselves your friends have proved otherwise in recent days and weeks. Take a step back and look at the big picture though Cancer, as long term this can only be a good thing. It gives you a chance to have quality time with those who can give something back to your life. Ring now to hear how instant attractions loom.

0906 585 4363

LEO Jul 23-Aug 22
A disappointment in the workplace will turn out to be a blessing in disguise as it forces you to think about what else you want to do with your working hours. Contact from someone from far away fills in many blanks about what's been going on in recent months. Ring now to hear why I know you're set for success in 2016.

0906 585 4364

VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22
Your emotions have been so unpredictable recently that you're not sure how you feel. This week presents you with the chance to get some very honest answers from close ones, so don't be afraid to ask questions. You should finally know where you stand and be able to plan your future. Ring now to hear what magic Venus adds to the pot.

LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22
Don't be afraid of new and perhaps foreign influences, as they are forecast to hold much in the way of opportunity for you. New ways to deal with difficult family members give you more free time by the end of this week too. Life feels like it's under your control again. Ring now to hear about the bright future I see for you.

0906 585 4366

SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21
You'll be inspired by this week's events. So much so, that you'll be in the mood to push your career and to discover how high you can aim. Not afraid of hard work or competition, you are ready to make the most of all the last few months have taught you. Ring now to hear why it's worth making time for family this weekend.

0906 585 4367

SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 21
This is a time of great changes for you professionally. Important faces will soon know your name. Don't be tempted to take more than you want, just because it's being offered to you. You may be better to work out what you want before you set out on this ambitious path ahead. Ring now to hear why you can afford to take the lead in love.

0906 585 4368

CAPRICORN Dec 22-Jan 19
Your mind is set on financial affairs, but the stars suggest you don't know how much you can or cannot afford to spend. Find out before Thursday so you can plan ahead. Knowing what's possible can offer you the confidence you need to enjoy the opportunities this month will offer. Ring me so we can talk about the future.

0906 585 4369

AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18
Jealousy is bringing out the worst in you. Play it down my friend. You and I both know you are better than that. By staying calm, you will discover by Friday that you have nothing to worry about and everything to feel secure about. Have faith in you and others will too. Ring now to hear how Mercury mixes travel and romance.

0906 585 4370

PISCES Feb 19-Mar 20
Mars brings out your naughty and immature side and you decide to do the opposite of what others tell you to. News from far away gives you reason to want to plan an exciting journey, but just make sure you invite those who should be a part of what's occurring. Ring now to hear how Jupiter allows you improve those finances.

BanburyCake Reader Offer

Newmarket Holidays

WINNER BRITISH TRAVEL AWARDS 2015 BEST LARGE ESCORTED TOURS HOLIDAY COMPANY

Portmeirion & Welsh Mountain Steam

Full of variety and interest!

4 days from £219.00, 22 Apr, 24 Jun & 23 Sept 2016

Explore the Italianate village of Portmeirion and enjoy two memorable railway journeys, which take you 'coast to coast' from Llandudno through Snowdonia to Porthmadog, including a ride on the famous Ffestiniog Railway. There's also the chance to journey on the recently restored Welsh Highland Railway.

Highlights & inclusions
- Visit to Llandudno
- Single journeys on the Conwy Valley Railway and Ffestiniog Railway
- Visit to Portmeirion
- Three nights' half-board accommodation at the Westminster Hotel in Rhyl
- Coach travel from the local area
- Escorted by a friendly tour manager

*Book by 29 February 2016. Please quote code SMOXUO £15 reduction is off the price shown above. Offer may be withdrawn at any time.

Convenient local coach pick-up points!

Call 0330 160 7730 QUOTE OXS

Visit www.newmarket.travel/oxs11488

These holidays are organised & operated by Newmarket Promotions Ltd. ABTA V7697K. Subject to availability. Single supplements apply. Standard phone charges.

ABTA Travel with confidence

Classified
BIG SALE
Sell your unwanted items in one of our NEW articles for sale boxes
Just Box £15.00 inc VAT for 6 nights
Placing your classified advert is easy
You can call our Classified Team on
01865 420420
banburycake.co.uk
recaptive@nqo.com

Family ANNOUNCEMENTS

In Memoriam

JILL MABBITT

14th February 2008

Eight Years have passed by so quickly, all the good times we had together.

It seems others have forgotten you already, but we will not.

Love From
Roy, Amanda, Darren, Ian, Sue, Gracie, Rilley and Family
xxx

Say 'thank you' to those who were there in your hour of need...

Call our friendly team
01865 420420

1 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Baby & Nursery Equipment

CHILD'S High chair, used 3 times, excellent condition £25. 01865 554137

Bedrooms & Bedding

Double mattress
£150
memory foam with cool touch fabric. 11inch deep, Still in packaging, can deliver
07464401138

TWO Single eiderdowns, paisley pattern, excellent condition £20. 01865 554137

Building & DIY

QUANTITY of Cotswold stones. 01865 554137

Collectables & Fine Arts

SCHWEPPES Soda Syphon, suitable for collectors £20. 01865 554137

Computers & Laptops

TALK Talk router £5. 01865 554137

Furniture & Furnishings

FOUR Solid wooden dining room chairs, covered in a blue fabric, bargain £75. 01865 554137

Glass, Mirrors & Pictures

LOUNGE Mirror, D15" x W26", excellent condition £15. 01865 554137

Mobility

Acorn Stairlift fits most staircases, installed by Acorn trained engineer.
0808 2234401

Articles Wanted

OLD FASHIONED Pictures, Coins, Gold, Silver & Bank Notes, English or Foreign and Costume Jewellery - Instant Cash Paid. Please Tel: 01295 254704

2 PETS

CLASSIFIEDS
01865 420420

3 SERVICES

Bathrooms

Renu Your Bath

Baths restored to **NEW** without removal.
One day service.
Any colour.

Get a FREE online quote at www.renubath.co.uk or call 07967 333030

Building & Decorating

M.J. Whelan & Co
BUILDERS

Whether your building requirements are large or small, we offer

- Immediate attention, together with a written price for the work required
- Free consultation and advice
- All aspects of building trade covered
- Guaranteed work from a well established small local building firm
- Small jobs welcome
- Special rates for oaps
- Federation of Master Builders

Telephone Mike Whelan Banbury
(01295) 250893
Mobile
07778 777710
Established 1986

FMB

Chiropody

FLEET FEET
LIZ SPINK
INST Ch And Pod
Chiropodist
HOME SERVICE
Tel: 01295 255866
Mobile: 07860 134138

Computer Services

LAPTOP & COMPUTER
Server, Set up, Repairs, Data Recovery, Internet, Network, Virus Infection, Home / Office Computer Problems.
7 days services No Fix No Fee
We visit you
Qualified & Experienced
pclaprepairs@gmail.com
01295 236292

Drain Clearing

BLOCKED DRAINS? All types of blockages undertaken. Bourton Drain Services 01295 758303

CLASSIFIEDS
01865 420420

Driveways & Resurfacing

WAYNE WALSH DRIVEWAYS

◆ Tarmac ◆ Block paving ◆ Concrete ◆ Drainage ◆ Patios ◆ Drop kerbs ◆ Brickwork ◆ Fencing ◆ Re-pointing ◆ Landscaping ◆ Garden clearance ◆ Shed bases ◆ General repairs
£10 Million Public Liability Insurance
◆ Council Approved

01295 750 064
07913278071
www.waynewalshdriveways.co.uk

Floor Specialist

OXFORD CITY FLOORING

COMMERCIAL & DOMESTIC FLOORING SPECIALIST

Contact us to arrange an appointment to visit our new showroom

H4 building,
Unit 3, Milton road,
Didcot OX11 7HH

oxfordcityflooring.co.uk
01235 832600

General Services

£ MAKE MONEY £
PORTABLE APPLIANCE TESTING

WE SHOW YOU HOW WITH OUR ONE DAY PAT TEST TRAINING DAY
STARTING NOW IN BANBURY
£249.00+VAT
COMPANIES, SAVE MONEY WITH IN-HOUSE PAT TESTING

FOR A FREE INFORMATION PACK
CALL: 01295 709312
www.pattesttraingpro.com
YOU CAN DO IT!

Placing your classified advert is easy - just call (01865) 420420
online: banburycake.co.uk email: advertising@nqo.com

General Services

HOME MAINTENANCE
S.R.D FENCING AND PATIOS
Fencing, landscaping, patios, paths, decking, drives, shingle, garden clearance, guttering, brick walls.
No job too small
For free quote call Danny on
01295 271210 or 07989 774289
danny_srd@live.co.uk

QUOTE BANBURY CAKE FOR YOUR
10% DISCOUNT

*offer expires 31.12.2015 • www.srdfencing.co.uk

Hairdressing

MOBILE BARBER
HAIR CUT AT HOME

SERVING BANBURY AREA
ALL AGES WELCOME
Available 7 days a week to suit your convenience
RING BRENT ON
07788 408137

Painters & Decorators

DAWES HOME IMPROVEMENTS

ALL HOME IMPROVEMENTS
PAINTING • DECORATING
PLASTERING • TILING
KITCHEN & BATHROOM FITTING
01295 596497

Plumber? Builder? Electrician?
To advertise your business call
01865 420420

Painters & Decorators

R D DECORATING
Painting and Decorating
Artex and Coving
Fully Insured
Visit my Website
www.rddecorating.co.uk
CALL RICKY
Tel: 01295 254082
Mob: 07930928152

Plumbing & Heating

T & D BARRY
PLUMBING & HEATING
All aspects of plumbing work undertaken
Central heating
Boiler changes
Gas safe
Emergency - Service
Mobile: 07976 280035
07958 523 881
Landline: 01295 259 431

Removals & Storage

GEORGE'S REMOVALS & HOUSE CLEARANCES
01295 268401

TO ADVERTISE ONLINE
banburycake.co.uk/advertise.
CLICK 2 find

3 SERVICES

Pest Control

BANBURY PEST CONTROL

GUARANTEED TO BEAT ANY WRITTEN QUOTE

WASPS, ANTS, FLEAS, FLIES, RATS, MICE, COCKROACHES, BEDBUGS

Discount for OAP's

Service available 7 days a week including evening call out's.

Please call Ish on

07838 368700

01295 255860

www.banburypestcontrol.co.uk

Property Services

insight Planning services

- Building Design • Architectural Drawings
- Planning Applications • Project Management
- Planning Appeals T: 01993 622420

E: insightplanningservices@gmail.com

W: www.insightplanningservices.com

Roofing Services

ROOFING SERVICES

- Flat roofs • Roof repairs
- Leaky roofs • Gutter repair
- Repointing

UPVC fascias, soffitts, guttering

No job too big or small

All types of work undertaken

Best prices in town

Free Estimates

01295 297953 • 07407 354715

Goddard's

Guttering and Roofing Specialists

A Family Run Business

Approved installers of GRP Fibre glass flat roofing

- New Roofs • Guttering • Flat Roofing
- Re-pointing • Under Tile Felt Replacement
- Roof Tile Renovations & Moss Removal
- Specialising in PVCU cleaning
- 15 Year Guarantee
- Free Quotation • General repairs

Freephone: 0800 858 9834

Tel: 01865 980274/0779 917 7609

Head Office 110, 266 Banbury Road, Oxford, OX2 7DL

david@goddardsroofing.co.uk

P & R ROOFING King's Sutton

PETE 07830 393495

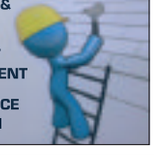
ROGER 07950 568087

Flat roof specialist

TILE, SLATE, FELT, SHEET METAL ROOFING & REPAIRS / CLADDING

GUTTER, FASCIA, SOFFIT REPAIRS OR REPLACEMENT

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE & GENERAL HANDYMEN



Telephone Services

TELEPHONE ENGINEER

- New Telephone Sockets For Sky or Broadband
- Faults & Broadband Problems Fixed
- On-Line Gaming / Data Connections
- Re-Wires & Cosmetic Tidy-Ups
- Broadband speeds checked

Excellent Service at Unbeatable Rates By Ex BT Engineer.

Call Graeme

01295 255964 or 07918 174822

www.banburytelecoms.co.uk

Tree Maintenance

TREETOPS.COM LTD

Tree surgery by NPTC qualified staff

For free, no obligation quotations contact

Mr Timothy C. Rose

Council Approved Contractors

5 million pound public liability insurance

Lantra / City & Guild Chain Saw Training Courses

Telephone/Answer: 01295 262247

treetopscomltd@btinternet.com

4 BUSINESS

5 ENTERTAINMENTS

CLASSIFIED 01865 420420

6 HOLIDAYS

Turn those unwanted items in to cash.

CLASSIFIEDS 01865 420420

7 EDUCATION

Call your Classified team to sell your unwanted items.

01865 420420

reception@nqo.com

8 PUBLIC NOTICES

S£LL YOUR HOUSEHOLD ITEMS UNDER £100 FREE!

9 RECRUITMENT

NEW JOB? NEW CAREER?

BRINGING PEOPLE AND JOBS TOGETHER

VISIT THE The Oxford Times jobsfair

RESERVE YOUR STAND NOW!!

Book early to avoid disappointment

THURSDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2016

OXFORD TOWN HALL, ST ALDATES, OXFORD

10AM - 5PM

FREE ENTRY

To exhibit call: 01865 420420 or email: reception@nqo.com

In association with The Oxford Times

Sponsored by Day and Nightcare Assistance

10 MOTORS

SELL YOUR CAR

BOOKING IS EASY

Telephone 01865 420420

Date, editorial and advertise

Newspost Oxfordshire, Cassey Mead, Oxford OX2 0EJ

oxfordmail.co.uk/advertise

11 PROPERTY

TO ADVERTISE ONLINE

banburycake.co.uk/advertise

RADSTONE FIELDS

BRACKLEY

PART EXCHANGE AT RADSTONE FIELDS

A beautiful 4 bedroom home at Radstone Fields, Brackley, could be yours thanks to our Part Exchange scheme. It makes moving simple because you have no estate agent fees to pay, a guaranteed buyer, a fair market value for your current home and a move that is made as easy as possible. Speak to one of our Sales Advisers to find out if your home qualifies for our Part Exchange scheme.

That's the David Wilson Difference.

Show Homes open Monday 12.30pm-5.30pm and Tuesday to Sunday 10.00am-5.30pm

HOME — OF THE WEEK —

Plot 156 - The Winstone

4 double bedrooms

Kitchen/family breakfast area

Separate dining room and study

South-west facing garden

NOW ONLY £489,995

3 and 4 bedroom homes from £259,995 - £489,995

Halse Road, Brackley, Northamptonshire NN13 6EG

YOUR HOME MAY BE REPOSSESSED IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON YOUR MORTGAGE OR ANY OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT

See the Difference at **dwh.co.uk** or call **0844 811 44 77**

DAVID WILSON HOMES

WHERE QUALITY LIVES

Limited availability, selected plots only. Subject to status, terms and conditions apply. See www.dwh.co.uk for full details. Calls to our 0844 numbers cost 7 pence per minute plus your phone company's access charge. BDW Trading Limited (number 03018173) whose registered office is at Barratt House, Cartwright Way, Forest Business Park, Bardon Hill, Coalville, Leicestershire LE67 1UF ("BDW") BDW is a subsidiary of Barratt Developments PLC. The Homes and Communities Agency ("HCA") provides an equity loan for 20% of the purchase price of the property. The equity loan provided by the HCA is secured as second charge on your property. The amount you have to repay to the HCA may be more than the amount of the equity loan provided.

MJ RECOVERY LTD
ALL SCRAP VEHICLES
WANTED
FREE COLLECTION ON MOST CARS
MOT Failures - DVLA Notified
£500 - £5000 paid for Clean Running Cars
Cheap Breakdown Service • Fully Insured • Registered Waste Carrier
FAST • HONEST • RELIABLE
Tel: 07766 540 401 or
Freephone: 08000 778 328
£20 charge may apply
Get a quote for your car from our website! Visit:
www.mjrecoveryltd.co.uk
201496

CakeMotoring

banburycake.co.uk/cars

In brief

- Older drivers pay more for every car journey they make, says research from Saga Car Insurance. While the over-50s contribute about 47 per cent of the total UK's motoring spend, their mileage costs them about 63 per cent more than younger drivers. This is partly because they choose new and premium cars more often; more than 60 per cent of new car spend comes down to older drivers. In the year up to September 2015, they were twice as likely to buy a Porsche, Mini or Jaguar than the rest of the population. These may be linked to higher maintenance and spare parts bills. Saga reports a typical motoring spend of £311 a month in an over-50s household.
- Almost half of Europe's parents know little or nothing about the term Isofix, a system of securing a child seat into a car. Some 44 per cent asked by seat maker Britax were unsure. It has anchor points attached to the chassis of most modern cars, so Isofix seats should click straight into them and be 100 per cent secure.

Practical Kia has space and power

Auto facts

Model: Kia pro_cee'd GT Line 1.0 T-GDI
Price: £19,720
Insurance group: 12
Fuel consumption (Combined): 57.6mpg
Top speed: 118mph
Length: 431cm/170in
Width: 178cm/70in
Luggage capacity: 13.4 cu ft
Fuel tank capacity: 11.7 gallons/53 litres
CO2 emissions: 115g/km
Warranty: Seven years/100,000 miles

By David Duffy
david.duffy@nqo.com

KIA drivers who want to stand out from the crowd have an obvious choice: the fiery flagship pro_cee'd GT.

The 210 horsepower, three-door coupé is capable of twice the legal speed limit, but has a major snag in the form of a price tag topping £23,000.

But the Korean firm has come up with a clever plan to draw in the sports-hatch enthusiast with a model offering a lower price and running costs.

Enter the GT-Line trim level, which gives most of the styling and trim features of the sporty flagship, but with lower fuel, insurance and taxation costs.

The model driven here came with a sparky 1.0-litre ecoTurbo petrol engine and there is also a 1.6-litre turbo-diesel.

The new petrol engine makes its debut and Kia says it will replace 70 per cent of its engines with more fuel-efficient alternatives in the next few years.

Not that the little 998cc engine feels at all underpowered, producing a healthy 118 horsepower which is more than enough to allow the five-seater to cruise effortlessly at motorway speeds.

Kia pro_cee'd GT rides like a tight, taut, crisp-handling European car

The pro_cee'd rides like a tight, taut, crisp-handling European car. That's no fluke, as it was designed and engineered in Frankfurt and Rüsselsheim and made in Slovakia.

All versions have a fully independent suspension system. At the rear are twin exhausts, LED rear lamps and the number plate and rear fog lights are encased in high-gloss black panels. Sill extensions boost the sporty side profile and the car rides on five-double-spoke 17-inch alloy wheels.

Theatrical touches include white lights illuminating the door handles and the bottom of the door mirrors at night.

The front seats are trimmed in black cross-stitch upholstery with grey inserts and fitted with power lumbar adjustment.

Standard equipment includes everything from steering wheel adjustment and air conditioning to Bluetooth phone link and a cooled glovebox.

Safety systems and range from electronic stability control and vehicle stability management, to hill-start assist control. Six airbags are standard.

The three-door pro_cee'd is practical, with a decent-sized boot and a 60:40 split rear seat.

BANBURY MOT & SERVICE CENTRE
MUCH MORE THAN JUST
MOT'S
MOT Testing Centre • Expert Mechanical Repairs & Servicing
All Makes of Car & Light Commercial • Brakes, Clutches Etc
Competitive Rates • First Class Service • Tyres & Wheel Balancing
Telephone 01295 700050
Unit 1 • Mead Park • Thorpe Mead
Thorpe Way Industrial Estate
Banbury • Oxon • OX16 4RZ

ROB DAWSON
MOBILE MECHANIC
Service & Repairs
All makes of car and light commercials
At your home or place of work Pre MoT Checks
Tel : 01295 253515
07549 125281

Motorbikes & Scooters
OLD CLASSIC MOTORCYCLE
WANTED.
for winter project.
Any condition considered, cash buyer.
Please call
01869 388497
07743 942176

Caravans & Motorhomes Trade
PRIVATE SALE FOR SALE AT

WEYMOUTH BAY D/G, 2012 Willerby Caravan, Like New Condition, Parking & Close to beach, Stunning Views. Excellent renting potential.Does not inc park fees
07786110096.
Only £12,995

Find your perfect set of wheels

banburycake.co.uk/cars
0-150,000 NEW AND USED CARS IN SECONDS

Caravan, Camping & Motorhome Show

Free towing lessons to boost ability

DRIVERS are being offered free towing lessons at this month's Caravan, Camping & Motorhome Show.

Qualified instructors from the Camping and Caravanning Club will help new and experienced caravan owners learn skills and improve their towing ability.

For the motorhome enthusiast a complimentary 20-minute manoeuvring session is available with The Caravan Club. Expert instructors will be available to help improve skills and build confidence for the road no matter what your level of ability.

The towing experience can be booked in advance through the show website, while those wanting to take a motorhome manoeuvring session should visit The Caravan Club in Hall 2 on Stand 2000. Bring along a valid UK driving licence photo ID to participate and note for the towing experience you must be over the age of 25.

Drivers will also be able to take a look around the latest cars from the show's official towcar partner, Hyundai.

A spokesman for the show organiser NCC Events said: "With the right tuition you will be prepared for every eventuality, remain safe and stay on the right side of the law.

"Good towing technique is crucial to your safety and the safety of other road users, whether it means giving yourself more time and space, accelerating slower, taking corners wider than normal or always having a good view of the rear of your unit.

"There's a lot to remember, but the best way to learn is with practice. One of our initiatives for 2016 is promoting the importance of towing properly.

"We are proud to be working with Hyundai Motor and offering this complimentary tuition at the show in February."

The show is from February 23 to 28 at the Birmingham NEC and is supported by the Caravan Club and the Camping and Caravanning Club.

To book your car advert telephone 01865 420420 or email reception@nqo.com

TO ADVERTISE CALL 01295 256111

EDEN VAUXHALL'S BEST EVER

BRAND NEW CAR OFFERS

EXCLUSIVE TO EDEN VAUXHALL

BRAND NEW

Mokka Exclusiv

£189 Per Month 2.9% APR

ZERO Deposit

Air Conditioning, Bluetooth, Parking Sensors, 40.9 MPG

BRAND NEW

Astra Excite

0% APR £169 Per Month

£495 Deposit

Air Conditioning, Bluetooth, Alloys, 45.6 MPG

£5,000 MINIMUM SCRAPPAGE

FOR YOUR OLD CAR TO PUT TOWARDS A NEW ASTRA EXCITE OR MOKKA EXCLUSIVE

BRAND NEW

Corsa Energy

£3,000 MINIMUM PART EXCHANGE ON YOUR VEHICLE

£139 Per Month ZERO Deposit 4.4% APR

Heated Seats And Windscreen, Bluetooth, 54.3 MPG

BRAND NEW

All-New Viva SE

£99 Per Month £99 Deposit 0% APR

Bluetooth, USB, Cruise Control, 62.8 MPG

BRAND NEW

Adam Jam

£2,000 MINIMUM PART EXCHANGE ON YOUR VEHICLE

2.9% APR £159 Per Month £159 Deposit

Air Conditioning, Bluetooth, 53.3 MPG

Only £99 Deposit And Up To 5 Years 0% APR On ALL Used Cars

2012 REG

Antara Exclusiv

£189 Per Month £189 Deposit

2014 REG

Insignia SRi

£179 Per Month £179 Deposit

2013 REG

Astra SRi

£159 Per Month £159 Deposit

2013 REG

Corsa SXi

£129 Per Month £129 Deposit

VAUXHALL

Banbury
Beaumont Road Banbury Oxfordshire OX16 1RH
Tel: 01295 755 400

Stratford Upon Avon
Birmingham Road Stratford Upon Avon Warwickshire CV37 0HR
Tel: 01789 416 900

eden
a better world of motoring

www.edenvauxhall.com

*Terms and Conditions apply. Astra Excite Cash Price £13,700 –Customer deposit £495– Scrappage allowance £5,000 – Total amount of credit £12,505 – 47 monthly payments of £169.81 – Optional final payment £4,356 - Total amount payable £13,700 – Representative 0% APR. Mokka Exclusiv Cash Price £18,000 - Scrappage allowance £5,000 – Zero customer deposit– Total amount of credit £13,000 – 35 monthly payments of £189.36 – Optional final payment £7,237 – Total amount payable £18,864.60 – Representative 2.9% APR – based on 5,000 miles per year. Corsa Energy Cash Price £11,735 - Scrappage allowance £3,000 – Zero customer deposit - Total amount of credit £8,735 – 35 monthly payments of £139.90 – Optional final payment £4,400 - Total amount payable £12,594.50 – Representative 4.4% APR – based on 5,000 miles per year. Viva SE Cash Price £8,080 – Customer Deposit £99 - Total amount of credit £7,981 – 47 monthly payments of £99.00 – Optional final payment £3,191 - Total amount payable £8,080 – Representative 0% APR. Adam Jam Cash Price £11,650 - Scrappage allowance £2,000 – Customer Deposit £159.00 Total amount of credit £9,491 – 35 monthly payments of £159.26 – Optional final payment £4,516 - Total amount payable £12,249.10 – Representative 2.9% APR – based on 5,000 miles per year. To qualify for Scrappage the part exchange car must be registered in your name for 90 days. These offers supersede ant other offer and cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. Excess mileage will be charged on the above vehicles. This promotion is available on the above model and is available on Eden Vauxhall stock only. Finance is subject to status, terms and conditions apply. Applicant must be 18 years or over. Finance by Vauxhall finance, PO Box 6666 Cardiff CF15 7YT and Black Horse finance St William House Tresillian Terrace Cardiff CF10 5BH. For further details please contact your local Eden branch.

BANBURY
VAN AND CAR HIRE LTD

NEED TO HIRE A VEHICLE IN **A HURRY?**

CARS
from **£9.99** per day

VANS
from **£19.99** per day

We stock cars and vans of all sizes for whatever you need to carry.

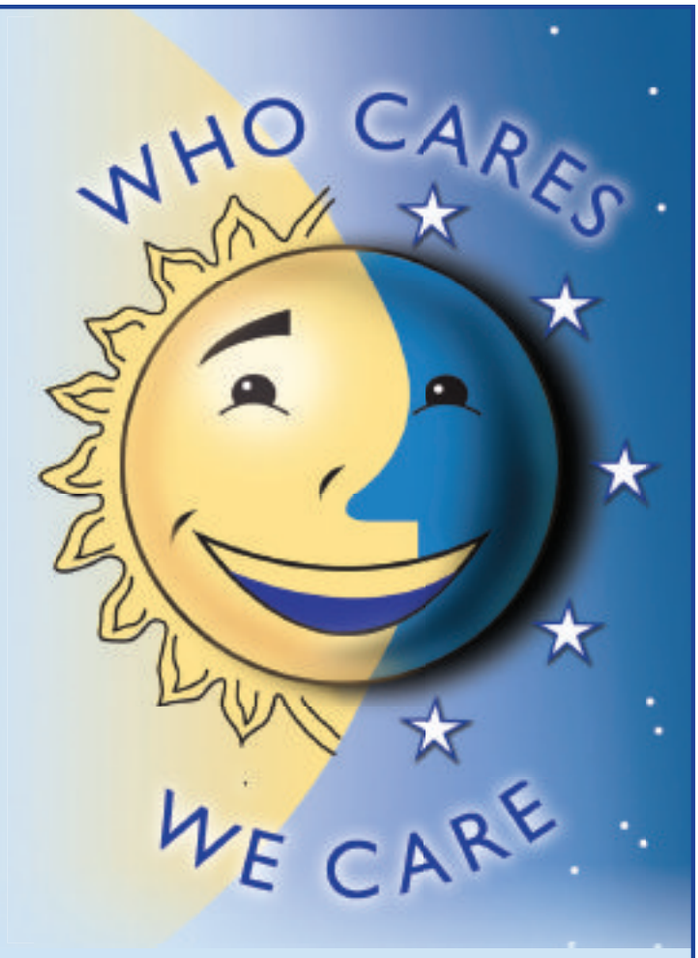
So whether you're moving want short hire or business hire
Contact the team today for assistance in choosing the right vehicle.
Prices quoted exclude insurance & vat

Thorpe way Banbury Oxon ox16 4sp

01295 256555
07888 747323

hire@banburyvanandcarhire.co.uk
www.banburyvanandcarhire.co.uk

Day and Nightcare Assistance



Are you interested in becoming a home care-worker, either part-time, full-time or even to live-in, helping older people to stay living comfortably at home?

We're expanding across Oxfordshire so wherever you live, we'd love to hear from you.

You'll get:

- Comprehensive training
- Flexible working hours to fit around your family or lifestyle
- The chance to gain a QCF Diploma in social care
- and you'll even get paid for travelling between home visits because our new positions come with a guaranteed salary.

To find out more drop us a line at careers@danacare.co.uk, visit www.danacare.co.uk, or text CARER to 66777, or call us in **Banbury** 01295 252277; **Wantage** 01235 772440; **Witney** 01993 708905 or **Oxford** 01865 715716